

Administrative - Internal Use Only

MBK-009

3 May 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Bangkok Bureau--April 1983

## I. GENERAL

A. The long-anticipated Vietnamese offensive against the enclaves of Kampuchean resistance forces on the Thai-Kampuchean border began in early April. Within the first week two Democratic Kampuchean strongholds had been overrun and several clashes were being reported on the border between Vietnamese/Phnom Penh troops and Thai defense forces. Fighting reached a peak on 9 April with the downing of a Thai reconnaissance jet inside Thai territory and serious shelling incidents which resulted in widespread international criticism against Vietnam and renewed tension on the PRC-SRV border. Since mid month, fighting has died down and the Democratic Kampuchean forces appear to have been able to maintain a position on Kampuchean soil through a fourth dry season, which officially ended on 2 May.

B. The 18 April Thai elections, which had been rescheduled 3 months early to avoid a constitutional crisis, were conducted with little fanfare and no more than the usual number of political assassinations and resulted in a general maintaining of position by the three parties forming the former governing coalition. The three parties initially were not able to agree on new coalition arrangements or to form any other workable coalition, however, and this logjam was not broken until Prime Minister Prem, who was fully expected to head the coalition for another 4-year term, on 26 April announced his political retirement. By the end of the month, a working coalition was being formed, albeit grudgingly, and Prem was reappointed Prime Minister on the 30th.

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Okinawa and Bangkok bureaus participated in a 10-day comparison of Delhi radio and TV coverage early in the month. This sampling resulted in the decision to maintain Delhi Television on Okinawa's irregular coverage.

2. The new Burmese clandestine radio of the Karen insurgents, Kawthulay Radio, was placed on bureau coverage early in April. Thus far material has focused on low-level "battle" reports.

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B. Technical

Bureau Engineer [ ] met with Embassy CPU officers on 29 April to coordinate the changeover of the bureau's first altroute duplex circuit to Embassy CPU. We are on target for the scheduled 8 May activation of the system. STAT

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

Promotions, covering the April-May period, have been presented to Senior Burmese Monitor [ ] Senior Lao Monitor [ ] Vietnamese Monitor [ ] Cambodian Monitor [ ] Bureau Secretary [ ] and Assistant Bureau Engineer [ ] Teletype operator [ ] has been awarded a QSI. STAT  
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B. Buildings and Grounds

1. The [ ] structure was sorely tested on 15 and 22 April when Bangkok was rocked by unusually strong earth tremors. The 22 April quake registered 5.5 on the Richter scale and was serious enough to cause the closure of the International School and several high-rise office buildings for the remainder of the day in anticipation of aftershocks. FBIS personnel remained at their posts during and after the quakes, contemplating their good fortune to work on the 15th floor and trying to pretend they couldn't see their coffee cups strolling across their desks. STAT

2. The bureau has upgraded its cooking facilities by purchasing a microwave oven and placing it in the library on the operations floor.

IV. VISITS

A. Okinawa Senior Chinese Monitor [ ] visited the bureau 25 April while on end-of-contract travel in Thailand. STAT

B. Bureau Chief [ ] is out of the country on Bureau Chief Conference TDY and private travel 14 April-8 May. STAT

[ ] STAT  
Acting Chief  
FBIS, Bangkok Bureau

GDK:mk  
Attachment:  
Production Report

## BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR APRIL 1983

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	659,790 (798,250)
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	233,780 (266,050)
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,607 ( 1,682)

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	15,575 ( 16,565) min.	20,505 ( 20,085) min.	200.23 ( 200.23) issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:  
(publishable words per month)AFGHANISTAN

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English		0 ( 0)
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AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	18,180 ( 11,810)	
Sydney The AUSTRALIAN in English		0 ( 0)
Sydney The BULLETIN in English		0 ( 0)
Sydney The WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English		0 ( 0)

BANGLADESH

Dhaka Overseas Service in English	0 ( 990)	
Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	120 ( 2,800)	
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	3,780 ( 7,120)	
Dhaka BSS in English		3,270 ( 1,820)
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali		0 ( 0)
Dhaka The BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English		3,760 ( 1,330)

BURMA

Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	5,930 ( 9,470)	
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese		0 ( 0)
Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese		0 ( 0)
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese		250 ( 0)
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English		140 ( 10,080)

CHINA

Beijing in Bengali to India and Pakistan	0 ( 350)
Beijing in Burmese to Burma	0 ( 0)
Beijing in Cambodian to Kampuchea	8,950 ( 2,120)
Beijing in Hindi to South Asia	0 ( 0)
Beijing in Indonesian to Indonesia	0 ( 0)
Beijing in Lao to Laos	1,850 ( 0)

	BROADCASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
<u>CHINA (continued)</u>			
Beijing in			
Malay to Malaysia	0 ( 0)		
Beijing in			
Thai to Thailand	0 ( 0)		
Beijing in			
Urdu to India and Pakistan	0 ( 420)		
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Radio Kawthulay in			
Burmese to Burma	2,960 ( 0)		
(Clandestine) Radio Kawthulay in			
English to Burma	0 ( 0)		
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in			
Cambodian	35,930 ( 38,850)		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in			
Malay	5,330 ( 1,380)		
(Clandestine) Voice of The National Army of Democratic			
Kampuchea in Cambodian	10,660 ( 8,930)		
(Clandestine) Voice of The National Army of Democratic			
Kampuchea in Vietnamese	0 ( 110)		
(Clandestine) Voice of The People of Burma in			
Burmese	5,310 ( 4,640)		
(Clandestine) SSPT in			
Thai	0 ( 0)		
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in			
English		58,920 ( 81,770)	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in			
English	2,840 ( 4,300)		
Delhi Domestic Service in			
English	30,460 ( 83,660)		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in			
English		1,940 ( 640)	
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in			0 ( 1,720)
English			
Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in			1,020 ( 1,730)
English			
Delhi PATRIOT in			850 ( 2,290)
English			
Bombay The TIMES OF INDIA in			0 ( 1,170)
English			
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in			0 ( 0)
Bengali			
Calcutta The STATESMAN in			3,040 ( 640)
English			
Madras The HINDU in			2,420 ( 1,300)
English			
Delhi Domestic Service in			
Hindi	0 ( 70)		
Bombay PTI in			
English		0 ( 4,720)	
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta Domestic Service in			
Indonesian	10,440 ( 14,760)		
Jakarta ANTARA in			
English		5,990 ( 14,290)	
Jakarta KOMPAS in			
Indonesian			1,100 ( 60)
Jakarta The INDONESIA TIMES in			2,730 ( 830)
English			
Jakarta OANA in			
English		0 ( 250)	
<u>KAMPUCHEA</u>			
Phnom Penh International Service in			
English	0 ( 0)		
Phnom Penh International Service in			
Thai	0 ( 0)		

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
<u>KAMPUCHEA (continued)</u>			
Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	40,900 ( 26,890)		
Phnom Penh SPK in French		23,750 ( 33,620)	
		0 ( 0)	STAT
		0 ( 0)	
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao	18,930 ( 30,490)		
Vientiane KPL in English		16,440 ( 21,710)	
		0 ( 0)	STAT
		0 ( 0)	
		0 ( 0)	
Vientiane PASASON in Lao			0 ( 0)
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	12,180 ( 11,030)		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	5,270 ( 5,100)		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	0 ( 0)		
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			4,340 ( 7,530)
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			0 ( 0)
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Katmandu External Service in English	60 ( 230)		
Katmandu The RISING NEPAL in English			180 ( 0)
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	150 ( 200)		
Karachi Domestic Service in English	5,760 ( 10,640)		
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	11,340 ( 18,450)		
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	3,680 ( 1,140)		
Singapore The STRAITS TIMES in English			1,630 ( 13,120)
Singapore The SUNDAY TIMES in English			0 ( 860)
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	2,950 ( 1,500)		
Colombo Domestic Service in English	430 ( 230)		
Colombo SUN in English			1,240 ( 1,010)
Colombo WEEKEND in English			1,070 ( 490)

	BROADCASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	5,200 ( 7,170)		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	2,250 ( 2,670)		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	1,890 ( 750)		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	14,140 ( 7,310)		
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			77,540 ( 67,720)
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English			13,360 ( 6,040)
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			1,600 ( 1,940)
Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai			4,990 ( 790)
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			440 ( 5,270)
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai			0 ( 2,330)
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			1,170 ( 990)
Bangkok The NATION REVIEW in English			48,800 ( 44,810)
Bangkok First Army Division in Thai	1,310 ( 0)		
Bangkok Thai Television in Thai	1,790 ( 0)		
Bangkok Chat Athipatai in Thai			0 ( 2,530)
Bangkok Lak Thai in Thai			0 ( 1,020)
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Burmese to Burma	1,560 ( 0)		
Moscow in Cambodian to Kampuchea	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Hindi to India	60 ( 510)		
Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia	140 ( 0)		
Moscow in Lao to Laos	700 ( 0)		
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	710 ( 0)		
Moscow in Urdu to India	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan	0 ( 0)		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Indonesian to Indonesia	0 ( 0)		
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in Cambodian	0 ( 0)		
Hanoi International Service in English	8,590 ( 5,220)		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	1,740 ( 1,260)		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	69,840 ( 85,750)		
Hanoi VNA in		0 ( 0)	
		0 ( 0)	
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese			0 ( 24,600)
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			10,280 ( 25,370)
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			13,220 ( 3,540)

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NOTE: Figures in parentheses are from preceding month